

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9874

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

FAA BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

UNCLAS PARIS 11147

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, FR, UK, SN

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: SINGAPOUR AIRLINES AND CONCORDE

1. AGENCE FRANCE-PRESS REPORTED APRIL 14 THAT PARIS REPRESENTATIVE OF SINGAPORE AIRLINES HAD INDICATED THAT SINGAPORE AIRLINES MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN LEASING TWO CONCORDES SHOULD BRITISH AIRWAYS SUCCEED IN OBTAINING SUPERSONIC OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS FROM INDIA PERMITTING OPERATION OF LONDON-SYDNEY SERVICE (VIA SINGAPORE) BY CONCORDE. THIS SERVICE WOULD COMPETE WITH SINGAPORE AIRLINES' OWN LONDON-SINGAPORE SERVICE, WHICH WILL ALSO INCLUDE PARIS STOP BEGINNING EARLY MAY.

2. IN COMMENT PUBLISHED APRIL 15, PARIS FINANCIAL DAILY LES ECHOS CHOOSESTAKE WITH A GRAIN OF SALT AT THIS STAGE LIKELIHOOD THAT SINGAPORE AIRLINES MIGHT ACQUIRE CONCORDES AND SPECULATES THAT SUGGESTION MAY ONLY BE PART OF CARRIER'S PUBLIC RELATIONS BUILD-UP PRIOR INAUGURATION PARIS SERVICE NEXT MONTH.
GAMMON

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